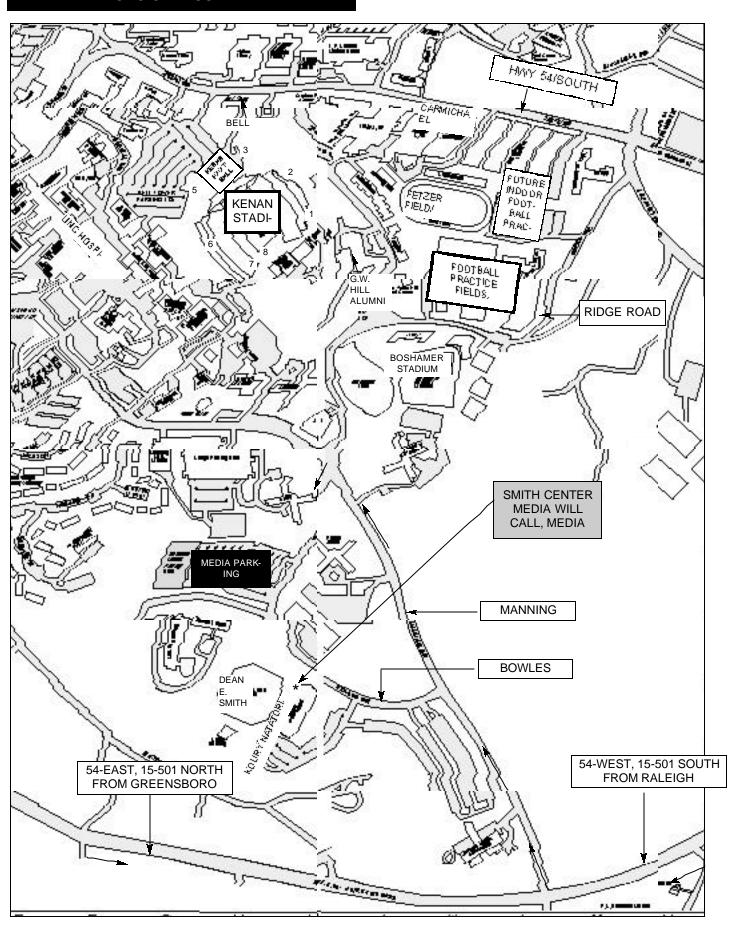
# NORTH CAROLINA BASKET-

### UNC CAMPUS MAP



## NÖRTH CAROLINA BASKET-

### 2000-2001 SCHEDULE

<b>Day</b> Sat. Mon.	<b>Date</b> Oct. 21 Nov. 6	Opponent Blue-White Scrimmage (exh.) Yakima Sun Kings (CBA) (exh.)	Site Chapel Hill Chapel Hill	<b>Time (Eastern)</b> TBA 7 p.m.	TV
NARC	Classic Smith C	enter, Chapel Hill			
Fri.	Nov. 10	UNC vs. Winthrop	Chapel Hill	7:30 p.m.	
		Arizona State vs. Tulsa	5.1aps	9:45 p.m.	
Sat.	Nov. 11	Consolation Championship	Chapel Hill	6 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	
		Championship		6.30 p.m.	
Fri.	Nov. 17	at Appalachian State	Boone, N.C.	7:30 p.m.	Fox SS
Tue.	Nov. 21	EA California All-Stars (exh.)	Chapel Hill (Carmichael Aud.)	7 p.m.	
4.00/D	: T Ob!!				
Wed.	ig Ten Challenge Nov. 29	at Michigan State	Fact Langing Mich	7:20 n m	ECDNO
vvea.	NOV. 29	at Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	7:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat.	Dec. 2	Kentucky	Chapel Hill	3:30 p.m.	CBS
Mon.	Dec. 4	Miami (Fla.)	Chapel Hill	7 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat.	Dec. 9	vs. Texas Á&M	Houston, Texas	9 p.m.	Fox Net
Sun.	Dec. 17	Buffalo	Chapel Hill	1:30 p.m.	RJ
Sat.	Dec. 23	at UCLA	Los Angeles, Calif.	4 p.m.	CBS
			<b>.</b>	•	
		f Champions, Charlotte Coliseum, Cha			
Fri.	Dec. 29	Richmond vs. College of Charleston UNC vs. Massachusetts	Charlotte, N.C.	7 p.m. 9:15 p.m.	Raycom
Sat.	Dec. 30	Consolation	Charlotte, N.C.	7 p.m.	Raycom
		Championship		9:15 p.m.	
Tue.	Jan. 2	at Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.	8 p.m.	RJ
Sat.	Jan. 6	Wake Forest	Chapel Hill	9 p.m.	ESPN
Wed.	Jan. 10	at Maryland	College Park, Md.	7 p.m.	ESPN
Sat.	Jan. 13	Marquette	Chapel Hill	1 p.m.	ABC
Wed.	Jan. 17	Clemson	Chapel Hill	7 p.m.	ESPN
Sat.	Jan. 20	at Florida State	Tallahassee, Fla.	4 p.m.	RJ
Wed.	Jan. 24	Virginia	Chapel Hill	7 p.m.	ESPN
Sun.	Jan. 28	at NC State	Raleigh, N.C.	1:30 p.m.	RJ-ESPN2
Thu.	Feb. 1	at Duke	_	9 p.m.	RJ-ESPN2
Sat.	Feb. 3	Georgia Tech	Durham, N.C.		RJ
Tue.		•	Chapel Hill	4 p.m.	
	Feb. 6 Feb. 10	at Wake Forest	Winston-Salem, N.C.	9 p.m.	RJ CBS
Sat. Sun.	Feb. 18	Maryland at Clemson	Chapel Hill	1 p.m.	
Thu.	Feb. 22	Florida State	Clemson, S.C.	4 p.m.	RJ RJ
_	Feb. 25		Chapel Hill Charlottesville, Va.	8 p.m.	RJ
Sun. Wed.	Feb. 28	at Virginia NC State		1:30 p.m.	ESPN
	March 4	Duke	Chapel Hill	9 p.m. 3:30 p.m.	ABC
Sun.	Maich 4	Duke	Chapel Hill	3.30 p.m.	ABC
2001 A	tlantic Coast Cor	nference Tournament, Georgia Dome, A	Atlanta, Ga.		
Thu.	March 8	#8 seed vs. #9 seed	, <u>-</u>	7 p.m.	ESPN
Fri.	March 9	Quarterfinal #1 vs. #8/#9 winner		Noon	RJ-ESPN
		Quarterfinal #4 vs. #5		2:30 p.m.	RJ-ESPN
		Quarterfinal #2 vs. #7		7 p.m.	RJ-ESPN2
		Quarterfinal #3 vs. #6		9:30 p.m.	RJ
Sat.	March 10	Semifinal 1/8/9 winner vs. 4/5 winner		1:30 p.m.	RJ-ESPN
out.	Maron 10	Semifinal 2/7 winner vs. 3/6 winner		4 p.m.	RJ-ESPN
Sun.	March 11	Championship		1 p.m.	RJ-ESPN
Juii.	MUIONIN	Championomp		· P	. TO LOI IN

#### 2001 NCAA Tournament

East – March 15 & 17 (Long Island, N.Y., & Greensboro, N.C.); Regional – March 22 & 24 (Philadelphia, Pa.)

West – March 15 & 17 (San Diego, Calif., & Boise, Idaho); Regional – March 22 & 24 (Anaheim, Calif.)

South – March 16 & 18 (Memphis, Tenn., & New Orleans, La.); Regional – March 23 & 25 (Atlanta, Ga.)

Midwest – March 16 & 18 (Dayton, Ohio, & Oklahoma City, Okla.); Regional – March 23 & 25 (San Antonio, Texas)

Final Four – March 31 & April 2 (Minneapolis, Minn.)

## NÖRTH CAROLINA BASKET-

### 2000-2001 ROSTER

AL	PΗ	Α	R	FΤ	IC.	Δ	ı

No.	Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
50	Brian Bersticker*	Jr.	F/C	6-10	241	Virginia Beach, Va.	Kempsville
31	Adam Boone	Fr.	G	6-2	192	Minneapolis, Minn.	Minnetonka
11	Michael Brooker	Sr.	G/F	6-6	222	Sandersville, Ga.	Brentwood Academy
25	Jason Capel	Jr.	F/G	6-8	230	Fayetteville, N.C.	St. John's Prospect Hall (Md.)
22	Ronald Curry**	So.	G	6-2	200	Hampton, Va.	Hampton
35	Jim Everett	Sr.	F	6-8	240	Charlotte, N.C.	Providence
13	Neil Fingleton	Fr.	С	7-5	280	Durham, England	Holy Name Central Catholic (Mass.)
40	Joseph Forte	So.	G	6-4	192	Greenbelt, Md.	DeMatha
00	Brendan Haywood	Sr.	С	7-0	268	Greensboro, N.C.	Dudley
14	Jonathan Holmes	So.	G	6-0	185	Bloomington, Ind.	Bloomington South
44	Will Johnson	So.	F	6-8	216	Hickory, N.C.	Hickory
42	Kris Lang	Jr.	F/C	6-11	256	Gastonia, N.C.	Hunter Huss
32	Orlando Melendez	Jr.	F	6-8	200	Juana Diaz, P.R.	McDowell County (N.C.)
3	Brian Morrison	Fr.	G	6-2	178	Redmond, Wash.	Lake Washington
24	Max Owens	Sr.	G/F	6-5	198	Macon, Ga.	Mt. Zion Academy (N.C.); Central (Ga.)
45	Julius Peppers	So.	F	6-6	270	Bailey, N.C.	Southern Nash

#### **NUMERICAL**

Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High School
Brendan Haywood	Sr.	С	7-0	268	Greensboro, N.C.	Dudley
Brian Morrison	Fr.	G	6-2	178	Redmond, Wash.	Lake Washington
Michael Brooker	Sr.	G/F	6-6	222	Sandersville, Ga.	Brentwood Academy
Neil Fingleton	Fr.	С	7-5	280	Durham, England	Holy Name Central Catholic (Mass.)
Jonathan Holmes	So.	G	6-0	185	Bloomington, Ind.	Bloomington South
Ronald Curry**	So.	G	6-2	200	Hampton, Va.	Hampton
Max Owens	Sr.	G/F	6-5	198	Macon, Ga.	Mt. Zion Academy (N.C.); Central (Ga.)
Jason Capel	Jr.	F/G	6-8	230	Fayetteville, N.C.	St. John's Prospect Hall (Md.)
Adam Boone	Fr.	G	6-2	192	Minneapolis, Minn.	Minnetonka
Orlando Melendez	Jr.	F	6-8	200	Juana Diaz, P.R.	McDowell County (N.C.)
Jim Everett	Sr.	F	6-8	240	Charlotte, N.C.	Providence
Joseph Forte	So.	G	6-4	192	Greenbelt, Md.	DeMatha
Kris Lang	Jr.	F/C	6-11	256	Gastonia, N.C.	Hunter Huss
Will Johnson	So.	F	6-8	216	Hickory, N.C.	Hickory
Julius Peppers	So.	F	6-6	270	Bailey, N.C.	Southern Nash
Brian Bersticker*	Jr.	F/C	6-10	241	Virginia Beach, Va.	Kempsville
	Brendan Haywood Brian Morrison Michael Brooker Neil Fingleton Jonathan Holmes Ronald Curry** Max Owens Jason Capel Adam Boone Orlando Melendez Jim Everett Joseph Forte Kris Lang Will Johnson Julius Peppers	Brendan Haywood Brian Morrison Fr. Michael Brooker Neil Fingleton Jonathan Holmes Ronald Curry** So. Max Owens Jason Capel Adam Boone Orlando Melendez Jim Everett Joseph Forte Kris Lang Will Johnson Julius Peppers Sr.	Brendan Haywood Sr. C Brian Morrison Fr. G Michael Brooker Sr. G/F Neil Fingleton Fr. C Jonathan Holmes So. G Ronald Curry** So. G Max Owens Sr. G/F Jason Capel Jr. F/G Adam Boone Fr. G Orlando Melendez Jr. F Jim Everett Sr. F Joseph Forte So. G Kris Lang Jr. F/C Will Johnson So. F Julius Peppers So. F	Brendan Haywood         Sr.         C         7-0           Brian Morrison         Fr.         G         6-2           Michael Brooker         Sr.         G/F         6-6           Neil Fingleton         Fr.         C         7-5           Jonathan Holmes         So.         G         6-0           Ronald Curry**         So.         G         6-2           Max Owens         Sr.         G/F         6-5           Jason Capel         Jr.         F/G         6-8           Adam Boone         Fr.         G         6-2           Orlando Melendez         Jr.         F         6-8           Joseph Forte         So.         G         6-4           Kris Lang         Jr.         F/C         6-11           Will Johnson         So.         F         6-8           Julius Peppers         So.         F         6-6	Brendan Haywood         Sr.         C         7-0         268           Brian Morrison         Fr.         G         6-2         178           Michael Brooker         Sr.         G/F         6-6         222           Neil Fingleton         Fr.         C         7-5         280           Jonathan Holmes         So.         G         6-0         185           Ronald Curry**         So.         G         6-2         200           Max Owens         Sr.         G/F         6-5         198           Jason Capel         Jr.         F/G         6-8         230           Adam Boone         Fr.         G         6-2         192           Orlando Melendez         Jr.         F         6-8         200           Jim Everett         Sr.         F         6-8         240           Joseph Forte         So.         G         6-4         192           Kris Lang         Jr.         F/C         6-11         256           Will Johnson         So.         F         6-8         216           Julius Peppers         So.         F         6-6         270	Brendan Haywood         Sr.         C         7-0         268         Greensboro, N.C.           Brian Morrison         Fr.         G         6-2         178         Redmond, Wash.           Michael Brooker         Sr.         G/F         6-6         222         Sandersville, Ga.           Neil Fingleton         Fr.         C         7-5         280         Durham, England           Jonathan Holmes         So.         G         6-0         185         Bloomington, Ind.           Ronald Curry**         So.         G         6-2         200         Hampton, Va.           Max Owens         Sr.         G/F         6-5         198         Macon, Ga.           Jason Capel         Jr.         F/G         6-8         230         Fayetteville, N.C.           Adam Boone         Fr.         G         6-2         192         Minneapolis, Minn.           Orlando Melendez         Jr.         F         6-8         200         Juana Diaz, P.R.           Jim Everett         Sr.         F         6-8         240         Charlotte, N.C.           Joseph Forte         So.         G         6-4         192         Greenbelt, Md.           Kris Lang         Jr.

<sup>\*</sup> Bersticker played in five games last year, but was injured and received a medical red-shirt

**Head Coach:** Matt Doherty

Assistant Coaches: Doug Wojcik, Fred Quartlebaum, Bob MacKinnon Director of Basketball Operations: David Cason

Trainer: Marc Davis

Strength & Conditioning, Video Coordinator: Ben Cook

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE
---------------------

Jason KAY-pull Jason Capel Joseph Forte Joseph FOUR-tay Orlando Melendez Orlando Muh-LEN-dez

ROSTER BREAKDOWN	Ronald Curry
Seniors (4)	Joseph Forte
Michael Brooker	Jonathan Holmes
Jim Everett	Will Johnson
Brendan Haywood	Julius Peppers
Max Owens	
	Freshmen (3)
Juniors (4)	Adam Boone
Brian Bersticker	Neil Fingleton
Jason Capel	Brian Morrison
Kris Lang	
Orlando Melendez	
Sophomores (5)	

<sup>\*\*</sup> Curry was injured playing football prior to last basketball season and received a medical red-shirt

## NÖRTH CAROLINA BASKET-

#### 2000-2001 OUTLOOK

New head coach Matt Doherty and four returning starters lead Carolina in its pursuit of a seventh NCAA Final Four in the last 11 seasons.

ead coach Matt Doherty welcomes back four starters from last season's Carolina squad that advanced to the NCAA Final Four for the sixth time in 10 years. Doherty re-joined his alma mater on July 11, 2000, after Bill Guthridge retired with 80 wins and two Final Four appearances in his three seasons as head coach.

Doherty, a 1984 UNC graduate and the starting small forward on the 1982 NCAA championship team that included James Worthy, Sam Perkins and Michael Jordan, was the head coach at the University of Notre Dame last year. He led the Fighting Irish to a 22-15 record and a berth in the championship game of the NIT.

The Tar Heels are led by 7-0 senior center Brendan Haywood, junior forwards Jason Capel and Kris Lang and sophomore guard Joseph Forte. That quartet started almost every game last year for the 22-14 Tar Heels, who defeated Missouri, No. 1 seed Stanford, Tennessee and Tulsa to reach the Final Four.

In addition to the four starters, the Tar Heels return nine other players with collegiate experience and add three freshmen.

Haywood, from Greensboro, N.C., is one of the premier low post players in the nation. He third-team All-Atlantic earned Conference honors as a junior, but was one of the league's most dominant big men in the second half of the season. He played his finest basketball in the NCAA Tournament as he averaged 15.8 points, 9.6 rebounds and 3.0 blocked shots and made 59.6 percent from the field in five postseason contests. He scored a careerhigh 28 points and pulled down 15 rebounds in the first round game against Missouri and totaled 20 points and 12 boards in the national semifinal against Florida.

Haywood is Carolina's alltime leader in field goal percentage and is close to setting the alltime ACC record as well. He has converted 386 of 587 attempts from the floor, a percentage of .658. (He needs 14 field goals to qualify for the ACC record.) The next highest percentage in school history is .635 by Rasheed Wallace. Last season, Haywood set an ACC single-season record when he made 69.7 percent from the field. That broke the previous ACC record of .670, which was held by Clemson's Dale Davis.

Haywood is third in Tar Heel history in blocked shots and needs just 62 more to break Perkins' school record. He has twice received the Carmichael Cobb Award, given by UNC's coaches to the team's top defensive player.

"Brendan is one of the top post players in the nation," says Doherty. "We need him to play big, dominate the middle and take care of the boards. He played his best stretch of basketball in last year's NCAA Tournament, so I hope he carries over the confidence he gained to this season."

Forte had a remarkable freshman season in which he led Carolina in scoring with 16.7 points per game. Forte, who lives in Greenbelt, Md., became the first UNC freshman to top the team in scoring and set a UNC rookie scoring record. He began the season by scoring 24 points against Southern California en route to MVP honors in the Maui Classic and capped the year by earning Most Outstanding Player honors in the NCAA South Regional. Along the way, he was named the ACC Rookie of the Year and earned a spot on the All-ACC second team.

Forte also led the Tar Heels in steals (54) and three-point field goals (56), and was second in assists (94 and third in rebounds (5.5 per game). He won the Jimmie Dempsey Award, which is given to the team's everall

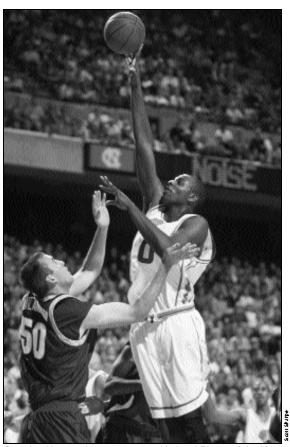
which is given to the team's overall statistical leader.

He was sixth in the ACC in scoring (tops among freshmen) and was 10th in the league in field goal percentage. He totaled 600 points, which broke Perkins' UNC freshmen scoring record. He scored 20 or more points in nine games, including a season-high 28 in the NCAA South Regional championship against Tulsa. He scored 24 points at Duke and had 20, including a last-second three-pointer to send the game into overtime, against the Blue Devils in the Smith Center.

Forte had 17 points against third-ranked Stanford in the NCAA second round, including back-to-back three-pointers late in the contest that broke a 47-47 tie and gave the Tar Heels the lead they would not relinquish. He averaged 25.0 points and 6.5 rebounds in the Sweet 16 and Final 8 round victories. He netted 10 straight second-half points in the Final Four against the Gators.

Forte started for the U.S. Select Team against the Olympic Team in a September exhibition game.

"Joseph certainly showed last year he can put the ball in the basket," says Doherty. "He played with great poise and savvy for a fresh-



Brendan Haywood is a preseason National Player of the Year candidate in 2000-2001 and is Carolina's alltime leader in

man. This year he may also play some at the point. We have to see how well he handles the ball. It could help us this year and would be valuable for his future development.

"There are a number of players who will compete at point guard, including Joseph, Jonathan Holmes, Ronald Curry and freshmen Adam Boone and Brian Morrison. Ed Cota had the ball in his hands a lot the last four years and took us to three Final Fours, so it is a big hole for us to fill."

Capel, a 6-8 swing man from Fayetteville, N.C., has been Carolina's most versatile and, quite possibly, its most valuable player the last two seasons. Due to injuries, he played out of position at power forward for much of the first half of last season. However, he led the team in rebounds through December and finished as the second-leading rebounder on the year at 6.8 per game. He had back surgery after his freshman season to repair herniated disks, but he played in all 36 games as a sophomore.

Capel was third on the team in scoring at 12.3 points per game, was second in three-point field goals made (27) and led the team (and was second in the ACC for a second year in a row) in free throw percentage at .809. Capel has shot 83.8 percent from the free throw line over his

career. That is the third-highest percentage in UNC history behind guards Shammond Williams and Jeff Lebo.

He keyed the Tar Heels' NCAA Tournament run with the best defensive stretch of his collegiate career. He held Stanford' top scorer, Casey Jacobsen, to 2 of 12 shooting and five points and limited Tennessee star Vincent Yarbrough to 4 of 11 shooting from the floor and 13 points. Capel averaged 8.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 4.0 assists in regional wins over Tennessee and Tulsa and was named to the all-regional team.

Capel scored in double figures 25 times last year, including 20 or more points five times. He had five double-doubles, including 14 points and 11 rebounds against Missouri in the NCAA Tournament. He hit four three-pointers in a win at Clemson and three against UCLA and led the Tar Heels in three-point shooting percentage at .380.

"I know how much Coach Guthridge thought of Jason's contributions," says Doherty. "You think of him as a throwback player because he does all the intangibles that help you win, but people forget how talented he is. He deserves to be mentioned among the best players in the country because he can handle, shoot and pass the ball and plays hard all the time."

Lang, a 6-11 power forward/center contributed more as a freshman than many observers predicted and worked diligently in the offseason to be better conditioned for his second year. Unfortunately, he contracted a virus in late summer that sent him to the hospital for a week and caused him to lose 22 pounds and his conditioning base. He returned to prac-

The versatile Jason Capel returns for his third year as a starter and is a preseason candidate for the Wooden

tice in late October, but painful shin splints forced him to the sidelines again. Through December, he was unable to practice or play more than 20 minutes a game. Later, the Gastonia, N.C., native battled a stomach virus, a sprained knee, a strained left quadricep, and a sprained right ankle (in the regional final).

"I don't think you ever saw the real Kris Lang last year because of the injuries and illnesses," says Doherty. "It will be key for us to have a healthy, aggressive Kris Lang. We need him to play tough defense, clean up missed shots and take some inside scoring pressure off Haywood."

Lang earned MVP honors in the Food Lion MVP Classic in December after he made 12 of 16 field goal attempts and averaged 15.5 points in wins over the College of Charleston and UNLV. He scored in double figures in 15 games and the

Tar Heels won 12 of those contests. He had 11 points against Stanford in the second round of the NCAA Tournament and held eventual first-

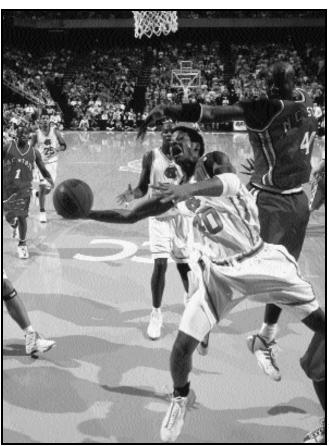
round NBA draft pick Mark Madsen to five points in the UNC victory.

Lang can shoot a jump hook with either hand and has worked hard on developing a face-the-basket jump shot. He shot 58 percent from the floor as a freshman and has made 54 percent from the floor in his first two seasons.

"Our size is an advantage for us," says Doherty. "Haywood,

Lang and Capel make up a pretty big front line, but we need Brian Bersticker to be healthy, also. We will use our size to our advantage. That means making people shoot the ball over us and box out. I want the other team to shoot contested jump shots, we have to box out, get the rebound and run."

Max Owens, a 6-5 senior guard from Macon, Ga., can provide quick offense and three-point shooting. He has averaged 6.1 points and shot 81.0 percent from the free throw line in 89 career contests. Last year, he scored in double figures in eight of the first 12 games, but played a reduced role as the year progressed. He netted as many as 10 points just twice in the final 24 games. He matched his career high with 23 points



Joseph Forte is a preseason first-team All-America in 2000-2001. He was named the ACC Freshman of the Year and MVP of the NCAA South

against UNLV and added 22 against Louisville and 18 against both Michigan State and Cincinnati.

Owens, who scored a combined 45 points against Maryland and Duke in the 1999 ACC Tournament hit the go-ahead three-pointer in the win over the Terps last January. He hit backto-back threes to give Carolina an eight-point

### Brendan Haywood led the nation last season with an

edge in the victory at NC State.

Bersticker, a 6-10 center/forward from Virginia Beach, Va., was part of a three-man low post rotation along with Haywood and Lang last season, but he broke a bone in his foot and missed all but the first five games of the year after fracturing his fifth left metatarsal against the College of Charleston on December 3rd. He returned to practice in February, but suffered a re-fracture and had another surgery in early March.

Bersticker is a mobile big man who can shoot the 12- to 15-footer and is an outstanding shot blocker. He had seven points and seven rebounds in the season opener against Southern California scored 12 points in the win over Purdue in the Maui final. Two years ago, he played well in the ACC Tournament in wins over Georgia Tech and Maryland.

Bersticker received a medical red-shirt and has two seasons of eligibility remaining.

Julius Peppers, a 6-6 forward from Bailey, N.C., became one of college basketball's top stories a year ago. Peppers had earned Freshman All-America honors at defensive end for the UNC football team and walked on the basketball squad in late November. He emerged as a critical factor in Carolina's march to the Final Four. Peppers provided added inside presence and proved to be a gifted athlete on the boards and in the lane.

Peppers showed early he would be a force to reckon with and not just a two-sport novelty. He ripped down 13 rebounds in a January 6 win over Clemson and had five points, six boards and two blocks against UCLA. He played his best basketball in the NCAA Tournament. He

points, eight rebounds and two steals in the win over Tulsa that sent Carolina on to Indianapolis.

"Julius was impressive last year," says Doherty. "He has a strong, active body. I was told he picked things up very quickly after the football season ended, and that was obvious by how much he was asked to play at an early point in his career. Julius and Ronald Curry will be integral parts of our basketball team."

Curry, a 6-2 point guard from Hampton, Va., also received a medical red-shirt last season. UNC's starting quarterback the past two years, he ruptured his right Achilles' tendon in a football game Oct. 9, 1999, and missed the entire basketball season. Curry began playing pickup basketball in June and is expected to challenge for playing time at the point once the football regular season ends.

> Curry began playing basketball in late December 1998 just after earning MVP honors in the Las Vegas Bowl. The former high

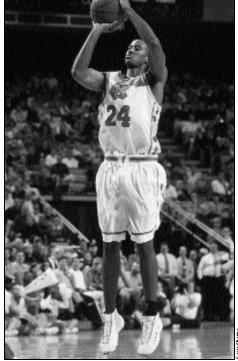
school National Player of the Year had 43 assists in 26 games as a freshman. He had 13 points, five rebounds and seven assists in a victorious start against Georgia Tech. Later that year, he hit the go-ahead three-pointer in the second half of Carolina's 59-56 win at NC State.

Michael Brooker, a 6-6 swing man from Sandersville, Ga., is a fifth-year senior. Brooker has shown the ability to shoot the three, but must raise his level of consistency to see a more prominent role. Last year, he hit a pair of threepointers against both Michigan State and the College of Charleston, but failed to connect the rest of the year. He could provide added depth at shooting guard and small forward.

Orlando Melendez is a physically gifted athlete who could be ready to provide valuable depth at small forward. The 6-8 junior is in his fourth year at Carolina, but received a medical red-shirt as a freshman and has two years of eligibility remaining. The Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico, native has played in 42 games as a Tar Heel and has shown flashes of his remarkable athletic skills. He scored on a spectacular dunk in last year's 70-67 win over Florida State. He continues to improve as he gains experience.

Jonathan Holmes should be in the battle to replace Cota as Carolina's floor general. Cota, who had 1,030 assists and led the Tar Heels to three Final Fours, averaged more minutes per game than any player in the ACC last year. Holmes, a 6-1 sophomore from Bloomington, Ind., played in 25 games and had 17 assists against just eight turnovers. His most extensive playing time came against Florida State at home, when Cota missed the game due to illness. Holmes had five points, six assists and just two turnovers and displayed an aggressive style and slick ballhandling skills.

Will Johnson, a 6-8 forward from Hickory, N.C., has a good outside shot and a knack for



Senior Max Owens' can provide instant offense and outside shooting for the Tar Heels.

out-rebounding bigger, stronger players. Johnson is a recipient of a Morehead Scholarship, the top academic grant awarded at the University. Johnson played in 24 games last year at forward. He also worked hard in the offseason to get stronger.

Senior walk-on Jim Everett made the varsity roster last year after two seasons on the junior varsity. A 6-8 forward from Charlotte, Everett played in 10 games last year.

The Tar Heels have added three scholarship freshmen this season, including Adam Boone, Brian Morrison and Neil Fingleton.

Boone is a 6-2 point guard from Minnetonka High School in Minneapolis, Minn. Boone was named co-player of the year in Minnesota by the Associated Press after averaging 27.3 points, eight assists and nine rebounds per game.

Morrison is a 6-2 combination guard from Lake Washington High School in Redmond, Wash. Morrison averaged more than 18 points a game in leading Lake Washington to a thirdplace district finish as a senior.

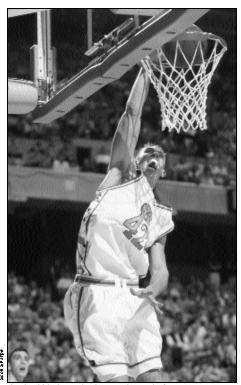
Fingleton, a 7-5 center from Durham, England, will be one of the tallest players in ACC history. He attended Holy Name Central Catholic High School in Worcester, Mass. Fingleton had back surgery in the summer and may not be able to see action until midseason.

Carolina's schedule should once again prove to be among the nation's most difficult. In addition to the annual ACC wars, the Tar Heels travel to East Lansing, Mich., to face defending NCAA champion Michigan State, and to UCLA, play host to Kentucky, Miami (Fla.) and Marquette and could have a return meeting with Tulsa in the NABC Classic at the Smith Center.

### Carolina returns 86 percent of its scoring and 88 percent of its rebounding

had nine points and four rebounds against Missouri, and had six points, six boards and blocked three shots in the upset over Stanford. Peppers' inside defense helped limit the Cardinal frontcourt to 7 of 29 from the floor and his late first-half three-point play gave UNC a huge emotional lift heading into the second half.

Peppers was instrumental in the regional wins over Tennessee and Tulsa, especially in the victory over the Vols as Haywood fouled out with eight minutes to play. He grabbed five rebounds late against Tennessee and added six



Junior Kris Lang looks to rebound after a 1999-2000 season hindered by injury and illness.